The approved outlay for the VIII Five Year Plan for the Small Scale Sector is Rs. 627.00 crores. Within the provision of VIII Five Year Plan of Rs. 627 crores for Small scale Industries Sector Annual Plan formulations have been made and accordingly, the Budget Provisions for the first three years of VIII Five Year Plan are as follows:

	Rs. Crores
1992-93	120.20
1993-94	138.70
1994-95	235.00

Besides, States also make provision for the promotion and development of Small Scale Industries. The provision for the year 1995-96 is under finalisation.

(c) Government do not make investment in Small Scale Industries. The investment in Small Scale Industries is entirely by private initiative for which assistance is available through Financial Institutions and Commercial Banks.

Funds from National Renewal Fund

705. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHA BHAI PATEL :

mil the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of funds to be released from the National Renewal Fund (NRF) for the current financial year;

(b) the details of amount already released; and

(c) how much of it has been released or is to be released for projects in Gujarat State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) A sum of Rs. 700 crores has been provided for the National Renewal Fund in the Budget. Estimates of of 1994-95. Out of this 500 crores have been earmarked for implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme in Central Public Sector Undertakings including those in the State of Gujarat.

(b) and (c) The details of amount released under the National Renewal Fund are as under

(Rs in crores)

1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (As on 31-1-95)
688.72	542·23	104·68

Apart from assistance for implementing Voluntary Retirement Schemes by Central Public Sector Undertakings based in Gujarat, an amount of Rs. 23.98 lakhs has been released in 1993-94 and 1994-95 (upto 31-1-95 to Gandhi Labour Institute, Ahmedabad for retraining scheme of rationailised workers at Ahmedabad.

Poor quality of imported Flint Buttons

706. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quality of imported Flint Buttons is poor as against the domestic Flint Buttons;

(b) if so, the reasons for importing the same; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the samples of imported Flint Buttons were tested by the Central Glass & Ceramic Research Institute and were found to be poor in quality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Ms. Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd. (BOGL) have represented to the Gov. ornmcnt about, availability of sub-standard imported Flint Buton:, in the market. No complaint has however been received from user Industry or any Government Agency engaged in public healthcare in this regard. BOGL who are the only manufacturers of Flint Buttons in the country use batch type pot technology for its manufacture which is considered to be obsolete in most of the advanced countries.

(b) Import of Flint Buttons is allowed without any restriction as the domestic pdoduction is not sufficient to meet the entire demand in the country.

(c) Some samples of imported Russian Flint Buttons collected by BOGL and got tested at the Central Glass & Ceramic Research Institute did no re-portedly conform to the Indian Standard s.:eci fixations.

Increase in cost of domestic Flint Buttons

707. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the domestic Flint Buttons have become costlier against the imported Flint Buttons;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to protect the domestic industry; and

(c) what is the market price of imported Flint Buttons as against domestic Flint Buttons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd., the only indigenous manufacturers of Flint Buttons, have reported that the domestic Flint Buttons are costlier compared to some of the imported Flint Buttons.

(b) Putting of Flint Buttons on the restricted list of import is one of the measures suggested for protectionl of the domestic industry.

(c) The price of imported Flint Buttons reportedly ranges between Rs. 296-560 per kg. approx, depending upon the country of import a_s against Rs. 531-656 per kg. approx. of indigenously manufactured Flint Buttons.

Restoration of BOGL's Flint Button Market

708. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bharat Opthalmic Glass Limited (BOGL) is facing steps'resistance in the market while marketing its superior quality Flint Buttons due to availability of sub-standard quality Flint Buttons of imported origin at $_a$ much cheaper price; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken by Government to restore the BOGL's Flint Buttons market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI)-: fa) Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd. (BOGL) has reported that it is facing steep resistance in the market in respect of Flint buttons due to availability of some cheaper imported Flint buttons.

(b) Putting Flint buttons on the restricted list of imports is one of the measures suggested for protection of BOGL's flint buttons market.

लघु उद्योग

709. श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार लघु उद्योग क्षेत्र में सांविधि ऋण और कार्यशील पूंजी की राशि को बढ़ाने का विचार रखती है;